

The proposed new Claim 31 is hereby being presented entirely underlined and without the word “New” in parenthesis as required in the communication:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add the following new claim 31:

31. A catheter for introduction into and withdrawal from the vascular system of a patient over a guidewire in said vascular system, which comprises:

- a) said catheter having a distal section and a proximal section;
- b) said distal section and said proximal section configured to be alternatively connectable and separable; and
- c) said catheter being adapted for introduction into said vascular system over said guidewire and for withdrawal from said vascular system over said guidewire by removing said proximal section while restraining said guidewire.